

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. ATT/2003-0225

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently Amended) A system for making quality measurements in a network, the system comprising:
 - a plurality of routers for routing traffic through the network;
 - means for taking measurements on a path between a first router and a second router from said plurality of routers; and
 - means for charging a degradation against at least one particular router of the plurality of routers within the path when data related to the measurements falls below a target value and tracking a number of said degradation for each one of said plurality of routers over a period of time.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the network is a Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) network.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the data related to the measurements is an R-Factor.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a manual mechanism for entering information into a matrix.
5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the information comprises at least one of:
 - an indication of a site where a problem occurs;
 - an indication of a nature of the problem;
 - a start time indicating when the data related to the measurements falls below the target value;
 - an end time indicating when the data related to the measurements rises above the target value; and

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an identifier of an individual that reports the problem.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the matrix includes a matrix of source routers and destination routers.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the matrix includes set events and clear events for at least one of the source routers and at least one of the destination routers.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of making quality measurements in a network, the method comprising:

tracking at least one path that exhibits an R-Factor below a target value;
tracking a start time indicating when the R-Factor of a particular path falls below the target value;
tracking an end time indicating when the R-Factor of the particular path rises above the target value;
determining if an overlap exists between the start time and the end time for multiple paths connecting to a particular router;
charging the particular router connected to the multiple paths with one degradation if the overlap exists; and
charging the particular router with each degradation connected to the multiple paths if the overlap does not exist; and
tracking a number of said degradation over a period of time.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the target value is 70

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of entering the start time as a set event in a matrix.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of entering the end time as a clear event in a matrix.

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12. (Currently Amended) A server for making quality measurements in a network, the server comprising:

means for taking measurements on a path between a first router and a second router from a plurality of routers; and

means for charging a degradation against at least one particular router of the plurality of routers within the path when data related to the measurements falls below a target value and tracking a number of said degradation for each one of said plurality of routers over a period of time.

13. (Original) The server of claim 12, wherein the network is a Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) network.

14. (Original) The server of claim 12, wherein the data related to the measurements is an R-Factor.

15. (Original) The server of claim 12, further comprising a manual mechanism for entering information into a matrix.

16. (Original) The server of claim 15, wherein the information comprises at least one of:

an indication of a site where a problem occurs;
a start time indicating when the data related to the measurements falls below the target value;
an end time indicating when the data related to the measurements rises above the target value; and
an identifier of an individual that reports the problem.

17. (Previously Presented) The server of claim 15, where the information further comprises an indication of a nature of the problem.

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18. (Original) The server of claim 15, wherein the matrix includes a matrix of source routers and destination routers.

19. (Original) The server of claim 18, wherein the matrix includes set events and clear events for at least one of the source routers and at least one of the destination routers.